Public Law 98–319 98th Congress

Joint Resolution

June 18, 1984 [S.J. Res. 289]

To designate June 18, 1984, as "National Child Passenger Safety Awareness Day".

Whereas motor vehicle collisions are the primary cause of death of children over the age of six months in the United States;

Whereas motor vehicle collisions are the primary cause of the crippling of children in the United States;

- Whereas more children under the age of five years are killed or crippled as passengers involved in motor vehicle collisions than the total number of children killed or crippled by the seven most common childhood diseases: pertussis, tetanus, diphtheria, measles, mumps, rubella, and polio;
- Whereas motor vehicle collisions are the leading trauma related cause of spinal cord injuries, epilepsy, and mental retardation in the United States;
- Whereas during the years 1978 through 1982 nearly three thousand and four hundred children under the age of five years were killed in traffic collisions, and more than two hundred and fifty thousand children were injured in the United States;
- Whereas an unrestrained child is less protected by padding and energy-absorbing materials than an adult in a motor vehicle collision, because protective devices are placed in areas more likely to benefit adults;
- Whereas unrestrained children are subject to a significantly higher risk of serious head, spine, chest and abdominal injury in motor vehicle collisions than older passengers because the bodies of children are less developed and provide less protection;
- Whereas an unrestrained child in a motor vehicle collision faces an increased danger of fatal or serious injury from ejection as well as injuries resulting from contact with the vehicle interior;
- Whereas an unrestrained child in a motor vehicle not involved in a collision may be killed or injured as a result of sudden stops, turns, swerves, or from the unrestrained child falling from a moving vehicle;
- Whereas forty-two States and the District of Columbia have enacted laws mandating the use of child safety restraint systems;
- Whereas only 40 percent of children under the age of five are protected by child safety seats in the United States and national surveys show that over 70 percent of such seats are used incorrectly;

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Whereas research has shown that the proper use of child restraints is 90 percent effective in preventing death and 67 percent effective in preventing injury;

Whereas death and injuries may be reduced significantly through greater public awareness, information, and education: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That June 18, 1984 is designated as "National Child Passenger Safety Awareness Day" and the President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe that day with appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities.

Approved June 18, 1984.

Whereas, because of the severity of deal bimdness the cost of educatity, training, and rehabilishing persons who are deal and plated is high in comparison with other dissibilities; and Whereas this high cost conservance; service agencies to be relactant.

to serve deal-Billed presents thus tabiliting the independence and solf-sufficiency of such persons, and arequintly result in their placement in costocical institutions, and

whereas although the treven heart (canonal center and its network) and regional dearblind conterv serve a portion of the population, tandequate education, trataing and rembio(ation services to the dod-bind population represents a terrible waste of framin lives and resources, imposing it high economic cost on the Mathon and

Winteren it is in the antional interest to prevent this wave of human resources, fester independence, create opportunities for employment, and maximize the fieldly to solvere among our deal filted outsourc and

Whereas these objectives can be accomplished only through an increased public availances of, and attaction to, the needs, shillline, and potential contributions to socially of persons who are took dest and bird; and

Wheneve is is highly appropriate to publicize the needs, abilities, and potential of all doalshind persona, and atmultaneously to recogcize Hicken Kaller not only and begron of courses uid hope for our Nation, but also as a symbol of what is possible for deal blind persons to arbitrary Now, therefore be it.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY-S.J. Res. 289:

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 130 (1984): May 22, considered and passed Senate. June 6, considered and passed House.